



**King County**  
Department of Transportation  
Metro Transit  
Rideshare Operations

## **Transit Only versus Bus Only: What it means for your Commuter Van in King County**

King County Metro Commuter Vans enjoy certain privileges on the road, but please pay close attention to signage. There is a distinction between **Transit Only** and **Bus Only** lanes, and if not used properly cause inconvenience and safety hazards for commuter groups, buses and may result in a costly fine at your expense.

Commuter Vans **may**:

- Pick up and drop off in **Transit Only** lanes *outside of the Seattle Central Business District* (downtown) **with the exception of all Park & Ride lots**. You may not use **Transit Only** lanes in any Park & Ride lots. When **using Transit Only** lanes in authorized areas to pick up or drop off passengers, move to the front of the lane and then leave immediately.
- Use **Transit Only** lanes to access the freeways.
- Use HOV lanes **only when carrying the required number of riders** in the van. Simply being a Metro vehicle does not allow for automatic use of these lanes.

Commuter Vans **may not**:

- **May Not** use "**Bus Only**" areas.
- **May Not** use the **Montlake, Evergreen Point, Overlake Transit Center, Newport Hills Transit Center** or **Brickyard freeway flyer stops** due to safety issues.
- **May Not** use the **direct access lane** used by Sound Transit to access the freeway at the **Ash Way Park & Ride**.
- **May Not** pick up or drop off in any of the Park & Ride or Transit Center bus loading zones.

Contact the Group Rideshare Service Representative at 206-263-5267 if you have any questions. Please understand that additional restrictions to the **Transit Only** usage could materialize as safety factors are continually addressed.